IN THE CLAIMS

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

Claim 1 (currently amended): A method for preparing an optical information medium comprising a ~~disk-shaped~~ supporting substrate having a center hole, an ~~annular~~ information recording area provided thereon, and ~~an annular resin-based~~ a light-transmitting layer including a resin layer formed on the information recording area through which recording/reading laser beam is transmitted, ~~wherein~~ comprising:

~~the light-transmitting layer is formed by~~ feeding a coating fluid containing an actinic radiation-curable resin onto the supporting substrate ~~having the information recording area formed thereon and~~;

rotating the supporting substrate ~~for spreading~~ so as to spread the coating fluid over the supporting substrate ~~to thereby~~ and form [[a]] the resin layer[[,]]; and ~~subsequently,~~

irradiating the resin layer with actinic radiation to ~~thereby~~ cure said resin layer while reducing [[the]] a rotation speed of the supporting substrate.

Claim 2 (currently amended): The method according to claim 1, wherein energy density of said actinic radiation on the surface of said resin layer is ~~relatively low around~~ lower in an outer peripheral region of said resin layer than in an inner region of said resin layer.

Claim 3 (currently amended): The method according to claim 1, wherein said ~~irradiation of actinic radiation~~ irradiating is carried out such that an outer boundary of [[the]] an area of the resin layer irradiated with said actinic radiation substantially matches with [[the]] an outer peripheral edge of said supporting substrate.

Claim 4 (currently amended): The method according to claim 1, wherein~~, in the formation of the resin layer,~~ said ~~irradiation of actinic radiation~~ irradiating is carried out after

scraping off at least some of the coating fluid that protrudes out of [[the]] an outer peripheral edge of said supporting substrate.

Claim 5 (currently amended): An optical information medium comprising:

a ~~disk-shaped~~ supporting substrate having a center hole[[,]];

an ~~annular~~ information recording area ~~thereon, and~~ provided on the supporting substrate; and

~~an annular resin-based~~ a light-transmitting layer formed on the information recording area through which recording/reading laser beam is transmitted, ~~wherein a recess is formed on the surface of~~ the light-transmitting layer including a recess at a position [[from]] outside ~~the outer peripheral edge~~ of the information recording area ~~to the outer peripheral edge of the light-transmitting layer,~~ and a ~~minute~~ bump [[is]] formed on the supporting substrate outside of the recess.

Claim 6 (currently amended): The optical information medium according to claim 5, wherein the relation:

$$D_1 \geq D_2$$

is satisfied when [[the]] a distance in a thickness direction from [[the]] a position on a surface of the light-transmitting layer ~~at the position just~~ inside of the recess to [[the]] a bottom of the recess is designated as D_1, and [[the]] a distance in a thickness direction from the bottom of the recess to [[the]] a top of said ~~minute~~ bump is designated as D_2.

Claim 7 (currently amended): An optical information medium comprising:

a ~~disk-shaped~~ supporting substrate having a center hole[[,]];

an ~~annular~~ information recording area ~~thereon, and~~ provided on the supporting substrate;

~~an annular resin-based~~ a light-transmitting layer formed on the information recording area through which recording/reading laser beam is transmitted, ~~wherein~~ the light-

transmitting layer ~~is a layer containing~~ including an actinic radiation-curable resin formed by spin coating, and having a thickness ~~of the light-transmitting layer~~ which does not increase from [[the]] an inner peripheral region to [[the]] an outer peripheral region at least in a region of the light transmitting layer~~, at least~~ on the information recording area, the light-transmitting layer having a thinned portion outside of said region and a thickened portion outside of the thinned portion.

Claim 8 (currently amended): The optical information medium according to claim 7, wherein the thickness of the light-transmitting layer is less at a position in the outer peripheral region compared to the thickness at least at a position in the inner peripheral region of the light-transmitting layer~~, at least~~ on the information recording area.

Claim 9 (new): A method according to Claim 1, wherein the substrate has a disk shape, and the information recording area and the light-transmitting layer are annular.

Claim 10 (new): An optical information medium according to Claim 5, wherein the substrate has a disk shape, the information recording area is annular, and the light-transmitting layer is annular and includes a resin.

Claim 11 (new): An optical information medium according to Claim 7, wherein the substrate has a disk shape, and the information recording area and the light-transmitting layer are annular.

Claim 12 (new): An optical information medium according to Claim 5, wherein the light transmitting layer has a thickness which does not increase from an inner peripheral region to an outer peripheral region at least in a region of the light transmitting layer on the information recording area.